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**Application No.:** 10/681,017  
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**PATENT**

### **REMARKS**

Claims 7-16 have been withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention. No claim has been amended and no new matter has been added.

The Examiner has issued a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring election of one of two different claim groupings. **Applicant's undersigned representative elects without traverse Examiner's Group I, comprising claims 1-6 and 17-23, for prosecution in the present application.** This election is in no way an admission of the Examiner's characterizations of the claims. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the non-elected claims 7-16, as well as any other claims supported by the specification, in one or more subsequent patent applications.

Early consideration and allowance of the present application are requested.

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